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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
MICHINOBU NAKAMURA ET AL : EXAMINER: AFREMOVA
SERIAL NO.: 09/674,280 :
FILED: DECEMBER 21, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1651
FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING
PROTEIN HYDROLYZATE

REPLY TO ADVISORY ACTION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Advisory Action dated May 29, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

The present claims relate to method for producing hydrolyzed protein by subjecting a vegetable protein material containing saccharides to enzymatic hydrolysis, comprising:

- (1) conducting cultivation of a koji mold in a submerged culture fermenter-type reaction vessel to obtain a fungal culture;
 - (2) mixing a dispersion of said vegetable protein material with said fungal culture;
- and
- (3) subjecting said vegetable protein material to enzymatic hydrolysis with said